a • (interjection); (particle placed after something for emphasis)

akesi • reptile, amphibian

ala • not, no, nothing; (number) zero

alasa • hunt, forage, seek, attempt; (preverb) try to

ale • all, every, everything; (number) 100

anpa • downward, below; bottom, underside

ante • different, other; alter, change

anu • (particle between options, X or Y)

awen • endure, protect; stay, wait; continue; (preverb) continue to

e • (particle before direct object)

en • (particle between multiple subjects)

esun • trade, transaction; market, shop

ijo • thing, object, being, phenomenon

ike • bad, negative

ilo • tool, machine, device

insa • center, inside, between, middle

jaki • disgusting, sickly, toxic, unclean

jan • human being, person, somebody

jelo • yellow, yellowish

jo • have, carry, contain, hold, own

kala • fish, marine animal, water creature

kalama • sound; to produce sound

kama • arriving, coming, future; (preverb) become, manage to, succeed in

kasi • plant, vegetation; herb, leaf

ken • can, may, ability; possibility, maybe; (preverb) to be able to

kepeken • (preposition) using, by means of

kili • fruit, vegetable

kin • (particle) too, also, as well, additionally

kiwen • hard object, eg. metal, rock, stone

ko • semi-solid, eg. dough, paste, powder

kon • air, breath; essence, spirit

kule • color; sensory aspect eg. taste, texture; category, genre

kulupu • community, group, society, team

kute • ear; hear, listen, obey

la • (particle) marking previous statement as context to following statement)

lape • sleep, rest, break from activity

lawa • head, mind; control, guide, lead; leader; rule, law

leko • square, cube, block

len • cloth, fabric; privacy; secret, hidden

lete • cold, cool; freeze, chill; uncooked, raw

li • (particle before indicative verb/ statement)

lili • little, small; young

linja • long flexible thing eg. line, rope, hair

lipu • book, document, paper, website

loje • red, reddish

lon • present, real, true, existing; (preposition) located at, in, during

luka • hand, arm; interact, touch; (number) 5

lukin • look, examine, read, watch; eye

lupa • door, hole, orifice, window

ma • earth, land; world, country, territory

mama • parent, creator, caretaker, ancestor

mani • money, currency; item of value

meli • woman, female, wife; feminine

mije • man, male, husband; masculine

moku • food; eat, drink, consume

moli • dead, dying; kill, murder

monsi • back, rear, behind

monsuta • fear; monster, danger, scary thing

mu • (animal noise, onomatopoeia)

mun • moon, star, night sky object

musi • art, game, entertainment; silly, fun, amusing

mute • many, much, very; quantity; (number) 20

n • (thinking, pondering, humming)

nanpa • number; -th (ordinal particle)

nasa • unusual, strange, silly

nasin • way, path, road; method, tradition

nena • thing that sticks out/up eg. bump, button, hill, nose

ni • this, that, these, those

nimi • name, word

noka • foot, leg

o • (particle, vocative or imperative); should

olin • love, respect, show affection to

ona • (third-person pronoun) he, she, it, they

open • begin, start, open, turn on; beginning

pakala • break, damage, harm; mistake

pali • work on, build, make, create; activity

palisa • long hard thing eg. branch, rod, stick

pan • bread, corn, grain, oat, rice, wheat

pana • give, send, emit, put, release

pi • (particle which regroups following words into single modifier for previous word)

pilin • heart; feeling, emotion, opinion

pimeja • black, dark, dark color

pini • complete, end, finish; conclusion

pipi • bug, insect, spider

poka • hip, side; nearby, beside, close to

poki • container, eg. bag, bowl, cup, drawer

pona • good, useful, positive

sama • same, similar, alike; sibling, peer

seli • warm, hot; fire, heat; cook

selo • outer layer, bark, skin; boundary

seme • what? which? who?

sewi • above; high, elevated; divine, sacred

sijelo • body, torso; physical form, shape

sike • round, ball, circle; cycle, year

sin • new, fresh, again; repeat

sina • (second-person pronoun) you, y'all

sinpin • face, foremost, front; vertical surface

sitelen • image, symbol, writing, drawing

sona • knowledge; know; (preverb) know how to

soweli • animal, beast, land mammal

suli • big, large; important; size

suno • sun, light source; light, glow, shine

supa • horizontal surface, table, furniture

suwi • sweet, cute, adorable

tan • (preposition) by, from, because of

taso • only, (particle) but, however

tawa • motion, eg. walking, travel; (preposition) going to, toward, for, to

telo • water, liquid

tenpo • time, duration, event, moment

toki • communicate, say, speak, talk; story; language

tomo • indoor space, building, house, room

tonsi • transgender, non-binary, gender non-conforming

tu • (number) 2; separate, divide, split

unpa • sex, sex organ; to have sex with

uta • mouth, lips, jaw; bite, kiss, taste

utala • battle, fight; challenge, competition

walo • white, whitish, pale

wan • (number) 1; combine; united

waso • bird, flying creature

wawa • strong, energetic, powerful, amazing

weka • absent, away; distant; remove

wile • want, desire, wish, require; (preverb) want to

this mini reference zine was compiled using the following resources:

lipu Linku, the community dictionary (https://linku.la)

lipamanka's semantic spaces dictionary (https://lipamanka.gay/essays/dictionary)

sitelen seli kiwen font by jan Lepeka (https://www.kreativekorp.com/software/fonts/sitelenselikiwen)

for all things toki pona, check out the community website at tokipona.net!

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lipu lili pi toki pona

a pocket-size toki pona dictionary